



Massachusetts
Department
of
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

fact sheet

Requirements for Certifying TURA Resource Conservation Plans and Environmental Management Systems

This fact sheet describes certification and continuing education requirements for Toxics Use Reduction (TUR) Planners to certify Resource Conservation (RC) Plans and Environmental Management Systems (EMSs), and for EMS professionals to certify EMSs. Statutory amendments in 2006 to the Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) give facilities the option of developing an RC plan or implementing an EMS under TURA provided certain conditions are met. RC plans must be certified by a TUR Planner meeting specified requirements. EMSs must be certified by either a TUR Planner or an EMS professional meeting specified requirements. You can find the regulations that contain these requirements, as well as TUR planner application forms and instructions on the MassDEP web site at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/toxics/toxicsus.htm>. Please note that one (1) continuing education (CE) credit equals one (1) hour of course or class time (i.e., a three-hour class would equal three credits).

Total Credits Needed for TUR Planner Recertification

Once certified by MassDEP, a TUR Planner must be recertified every two years and must obtain continuing education (CE) credits as a condition of recertification. The existing numbers of CE credits required for recertification have not changed and are listed below.

Certification Type	General Practice Planner	Limited Practice Planner
First Recertification	30 CE credits	24 CE credits
Second, Third, Etc. Recertification	24 CE credits	20 CE credits

Credits Needed by TUR Planners to Certify EMSs and RC Plans

In order for a TUR Planner to certify either an EMS or an RC Plan, the Planner needs the CE credits, experience, and/or accreditation noted below. These CE credits count toward the total credits needed by the Planner for recertification (i.e., the overall CE credits for recertification would not increase). Please note that some of the initial RC and EMS CE credits could be from trainings already taken. For RC training, these credits must be from within the past two years.

Certification Type	General Practice Planner	Limited Practice Planner
EMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited or certified under recognized EMS standard OR 16 credits in EMS (one time) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited or certified under recognized EMS standard OR Two years EMS experience OR 16 credits in EMS (one time)
RC Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 credits for first certification, at least six in applying TUR planning methods to RC planning THEN 9 credits every FOUR years thereafter (part of recertification), three each in energy, water, and materials found in solid waste No RC planning credits needed to certify RC plans that focus on toxics substances used below threshold amounts or chemical substances exempt from TURA reporting (as defined in 310 CMR 50.92 (2) (d) and (e)). 	

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Requirements for EMS Professionals (non-TUR Planners)

An EMS professional is someone who is accredited or certified under a recognized EMS standard (e.g., ISO 14001) or who has two years experience implementing and auditing EMSs (if an EMS professional also is a TUR Planner, see above). In order for an EMS professional to certify an EMS (i.e., instead of a TUR Planner), the professional would need specific training and/or experience in toxics use reduction as described below. In some cases, an EMS professional may already have TUR training that they could count towards this requirement.

Certification Type	Certify EMS for any Facility	Certify EMS only for Employer's Facility
EMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accredited or certified under recognized EMS standard OR• 2 years EMS experience AND• 16 hours of initial TUR training THEN• 16 hours of TUR training every 6 years thereafter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accredited or certified under recognized EMS standard OR• 2 years EMS experience AND• 16 hours of initial TUR training OR• 2 years of TUR experience THEN• 16 hours of TUR training every 6 years thereafter

Examples:

- A General Practice TUR Planner also is accredited as an ISO 14001 EMS Lead Auditor. This Planner already would meet the criteria to certify an EMS for any facility in the 2008 planning cycle.
- A Limited Practice TUR Planner has been integral in developing and implementing her company's EMS (i.e., has two years experience with the EMS). This Planner already would meet the criteria to certify her company's EMS in 2008.
- A TUR Planner already has three credits in RC, but does not have other recent eligible RC training. This Planner would need to obtain an additional nine credits in RC (six specific in RC planning, three in general RC) to certify an RC plan in 2008. To certify RC plans beyond 2008, this Planner would need to obtain nine credits in RC every four years (three each in energy, water, materials) as part of the Planner's total credits needed for recertification.
- An EMS professional (who is not a TUR Planner) has participated on the TUR planning team and helped his company implement toxics use reduction over several years (e.g., has two years TUR experience). This professional could document his TUR experience and certify his company's EMS in 2008. To certify EMSs beyond 2008, this professional would need to take further TUR training in order to obtain 16 credits every six years.
- An accredited EMS professional (who is not a TUR planner) has little TUR experience. This professional would need 16 hours of TUR training to certify an EMS in 2008. If the professional already has taken some TUR training, the professional could document this past TUR training and count it toward the 16 total credits needed. To certify EMSs beyond 2008, this professional would need to take further TUR training in order to obtain 16 credits every six years.